

## ICE-BOUND GREENLAND

### THE SCENE OF NEW EXPLORING OPERATIONS.

Lieutenant Peary and a Party Bound for a Journey to Determine the Country's Northern Limit, and Lay Out a Route to the Pole.

From New York there has sailed a little bit of a whaling vessel—the Kite—well seasoned to the arctic waters, with two adventurous parties, one section of which intends to lay out a route for some future expedition to the north pole, the other bent on the scientific exploration of the north-west coast of Greenland.

The two bands which have pooled their resources and arranged to travel about 3,000 miles due north in company, and afterward to separate and do alone the work that will have brought each into the arctic region, are Lieut. Robert E. Peary's party, to determine the northern extent of Greenland, and the company of Prof. Angelo Heilprin of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, who will ascertain the physical facts about what is probably the most interesting section of the same country.

Although Greenland was colonized by Europeans a thousand years ago, very little is known about its interior, and nothing in relation to its extreme northern boundary. Some people claim that it is a continent stretching perhaps as far as the north pole, but geographers generally agree that it is an island, and that there is an ocean passage connecting the Arctic Ocean with the Atlantic not very far north of the most northerly point so far reached on the west coast of Greenland.

This theory is borne out by the configuration of the coast line, which narrows on both coasts toward the north, and it requires very little imagination to round out the island, making the northern limit cross a line about 400 miles from the north pole.

Lieut. Peary's idea is to reach this limit, establish stations there, and make those stations the starting point of another expedition to the pole itself.

This same latitude has never been reached by any of the many polar expeditions. The scheme, therefore, is to begin a little north of the points where Peary, Payer, De Long, and Greeley left off, assuming that Greenland is an island, and that future expeditions will probably be made in strong whaling boats, carried in sections over the ice cap which covers the country. The surface of the cap is comparatively smooth, and admits of a comparatively easy traveling which might be called luxurious when compared with journeys over the jagged, frozen sea.

One of the reasons for believing in the



LIEUTENANT R. E. PEARY, U. S. N.

existence of a channel at this point, connecting the two oceans, is that a heavy flow of water comes down the coast. It comes, probably, from the Atlantic, because the tides can be identified as Atlantic tides as opposed to those of the Pacific.

Whether these 400 miles between Greenland and the pole are filled in with only a frozen ocean broken up into an impassable ice gorge, or whether there is a chain of islands giving tolerably easy access to the pole is, of course, yet to be determined.

Peary and his party will be able to do little but preparatory work during the present year. The Kite will convey them to some suitable spot in Prudhoe Land, and they will go into winter quarters immediately, where they will wait until next summer for their great dash to the northern limits. They will deliberately get frozen in there for the winter. All the expeditions which have gone for the pole have met this fate, but they have had the disadvantage of being in ships which were likely to be "nipped" and sunk.

It will not be until next year, therefore, that the fruits of Peary's explorations can be placed on record.

With the Heilprin party, however, the case is different. After depositing Peary and his effects in the most sheltered nook it is possible to find, the bonny little Kite will take to her heels and land the other party at points along the coast favorable to the determination of important facts missing in the scientific history of Greenland.

Considering their well-known ability and capacity for research, the discoveries of the Heilprin party are likely to be more diverse and interesting than even those of Peary. The region to be traversed is very rich in animal life, and it is intended to secure specimens of every creature that will kindly come within the range of the very effective guns that will be carried.

Polar bears, wolves, foxes, seals, reindeer, musk ox, walrus, and scores of animals almost equally interesting are to be found about Whale Sound. Insects and birds fill the air. On land there are minerals and extremely valuable specimens of fossils, and the botanist, though not as richly repaid for his labor as in other parts of the world, can find plenty to do among the lichens, mosses, grasses and flowers of the country.

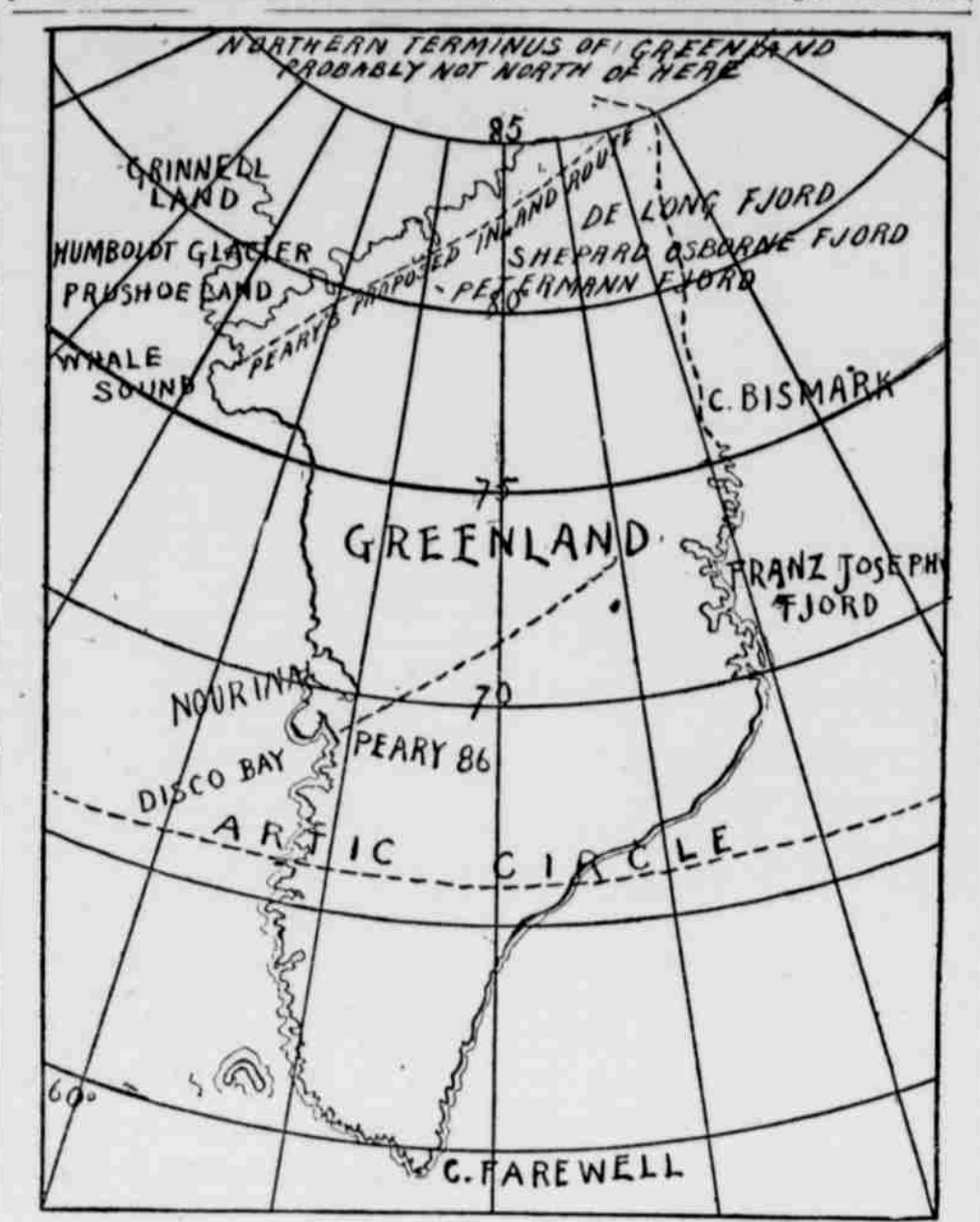
There seems to be a wave of curiosity just now about Greenland, for, in addition to the two expeditions on the Kite,

at least two others have been fitted out in Northern Europe. Each, however, has its separate mission. While there will be, to a certain extent, scientific competition, the expeditions are not likely to come to blows, or even to meet. Patriotic Americans will, of course, hope that the Heilprin party will carry off the laurels.

The Kite, in which the party will travel, is a typical whaler, not beautiful to the eye but powerful, seaworthy, and just about as unsinkable as a vessel can

In some parts of Greenland, particularly in the north, the ice and snow, collecting for ages, has accumulated until it is a mile thick in some places. As it never melts, the surface is tolerably smooth. It is the discharge of ice by means of glaciers that keeps the supply down.

The weight of the snow pressing from the center to the edges forces the ice into the sea. It flows down the valleys as rivers do, and, reaching the sea, it broken off into icebergs. Greenland



MAP OF PEARY'S PROPOSED ROUTE.

be made. This craft, to which the party commit themselves and their hopes for a period of about four months, is bark built, but barkentine rigged, and, though equipped with all the sails a vessel of her size can possibly carry, she has an engine and propeller. She relies chiefly on her canvas, but the steam is useful in extricating her from ice.

The Kite's dimensions are 117.6 feet over all, 25.4 feet beam, and 14 feet hold. Its tonnage is 280 gross and 190 net. The engine is fifty horse power, and, being a vertical engine, the builder was enabled to place it well aft. This gives the propeller a short crank shaft, and lessens the liability to breakage. Its normal speed is seven and a half knots with steam, and with both sail and steam fully nine knots. As a protection against ice while running free the Kite's bows fifteen feet back are a solid mass of wood, the timbers being dovetailed together. A vertical strip of iron passes from the bowsprit down the nose under the water line and some distance along the keel. The iron is 4 inches wide and 1 inch thick. Straps of iron 4 inches wide and 1 1/2 inches thick are bound around the nose horizontally to snub the ice. From the stern two-thirds of the way forward the sides are doubly planked. Both sides down to the keel forward are also doubly planked. She has had plenty of experience among the icebergs. Mr. Bowring, of the shipping firm of Bowring & Archibald, of New York, the agents of the Kite, says that if she hit an iceberg it would be a very bad thing for the berg.

Whalers of this kind go north, loaded to the gunwales with coal, and if they are specially fortunate and catch their whales quickly, they leave the coal overboard to make room for the oil.

The Kite may bring back a whale or two, but the plans of the party are to make its zoological prizes much more varied than those of a whaler. Dr. Hughes expects to have a carnival among the birds of Greenland and fill up a large part of the steamer's 'twelve decks with bird skins, eggs and nests. Dr. Sharp will carry a Winchester rifle of a bore sufficiently large to enable him to bag with ease a polar bear, a walrus,

therefore, is one huge iceberg factory as well as a refrigerator which, with its stock of millions upon millions of tons of ice stored up for eternity, has a tremendous effect upon the temperature of everything within hundreds of miles of it, and no doubt upon the climate of this country.

Lieut. Peary gives the following brief outline of his plans:

In July the party, numbering five or six, will go into winter quarters at Whale Sound, to make reconnaissance and lay in supplies for the journey toward the pole. Next spring an advance party will be sent forward to establish depots of supplies, and the main party

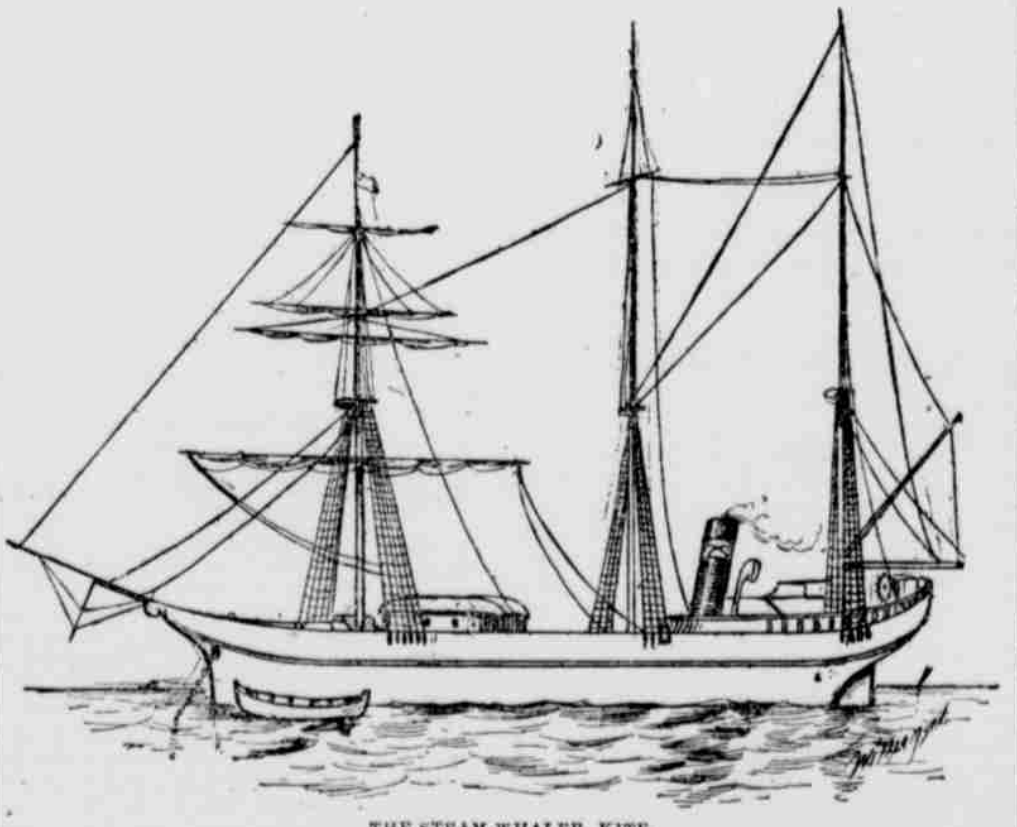


EQUIPPED FOR TRAVEL.

will follow, proceeding as far north as possible.

Here a second depot will be established, and two or three of the party, with full sledges, will push on, the others returning with light sledges to Whale Sound.

The advance party will push on from Petermann fjord to the head of Sherard Osborn fjord, establish a depot there, thence to the head of De Long fjord, establish a depot, thence to the northern terminus of Greenland.



THE STEAM WHALER KITE.

a narwhal—the unicorn-whale—or a seal. Reindeer and musk ox will tumble before his bullets if he has the luck he hopes for.

Lieut. Peary said that the chief object sought to be accomplished by the expedition is the solution of the problem whether Greenland is an island or a continent.

"If it is a continent, and it seems to me that the weight of the evidence is that way," Lieut. Peary continued, "the vexed question of the finding of the north pole will have been answered in the affirmative, for it will be necessary, in order to reach the pole, only to penetrate further and further into the frozen country along the line of the western coast of Greenland. If it shall be proven that Greenland is a continent, many lives of explorers who might seek to reach the pole by sailing north will be spared."

This point reached and determined, the advance party will retrace its steps to Whale Sound, taking up the various depots, and seize the first opportunity to return home.

The whole theory of the project is based upon the fact that the interior of South and Middle Greenland is known to be covered with an uninterrupted ice cap and the more than probability that in North Greenland the conditions are the same and the ice cap practically co-extensive with the land.

Ma and Pa.

Mrs. De Style—The expressman has come with my box of winter dresses. Tell pa to go down and pay him.

Little Son—Pa can't go down now. He's sewing a patch on his pants.—Street & Smith's Good News.

## AN ANIMAL WITH A NAME.

### Something About the Helioderma Horridum.

"Let me introduce you to the Helioderma horridum," said C. K. Giles, the State street jeweler, yesterday, pointing to a glass case which stands in a conspicuous position in his wholesale department. The object referred to by such a resonant title was a little mass of black and gold beads stretched on one corner of the case on a heap of sawdust. Presently the mass became movable, a leg stretched itself out at one end, and the Helio, etc., stood revealed as one of the largest lizards ever hatched.

The animal is about sixteen inches in length, and of genuine Falstaffian girth. The skin is covered completely with beautiful shaped scales, and, like Jacob's ewes, spotted and ring-streaked. The shape of the spots is wonderfully regular, bearing a strong resemblance to the black and gold wall-paper of a dado. The tail is long and thicker than that of most lizards. Round it run three or four rings of gold. The head is broad and flat, with protuberances which conceal the tiny eyes when viewed from above.

"You are not obliged to call him Helioderma horridum all the time," said Mr. Giles. "Some people call him Helioderma suspectum, and others the Gila monster. I call him 'Tommy.' Here, Tommy."

Mr. Giles clutched the reptile affectionately between his finger and thumb and set him on the floor. He moved as leisurely and dignifiedly as if he were at home on the sands of Arizona. His forked tongue flashed incessantly in and out, his eyes rolled, and he looked altogether as if he might be an uncomfortable customer to deal with were he to take a notion in that direction. For three years he has lived in Chicago and has succeeded in growing fat on two eggs per week for nine months out of the year and a Lenten fast the remaining three. The eight-hour day has no charm for Tommy. He only asks for three months' sleep and then he is ready to enjoy himself for the rest of the year. When he is at home he is the subject of more hair-raising tales than any beast of his dimensions, but Mr. Giles will not even concede the fact that he possesses a drop of poison in his whole anatomy.

"He is especially interesting," said his owner, "for he forms the link between the lizards and the crocodile genus. He is probably the only specimen in captivity besides a brother in the Smithsonian Institution, and his race is almost extinct."—Chicago Globe.

## TRUE NO MORE.

America No Longer the Asylum for All of Adam's Kin.

Once upon a time James Russell Lowell sang of America, "She whose free latchstring never was drawn in against the poorest child of Adam's kin," says a London paper. That was true some years ago; it is not now. The laws against immigrants are at present severe in the United States. In too many cases the authorities emulate Goldsmith's "rude Carinthian boor," who "against the houseless stranger shuts the door." Not only are foreign philanthropists forbidden to use the Republic as a refuge for their proteges, but no American employer can employ laborers under contract. In this way America strives to obtain the pick of European workmen—the enterprising and independent emigrants who can pay their own passage and have money to support themselves for some time. But, while New England has turned thus inhospitable, Old England is still the refuge of the oppressed and destitute of every race. Our "latchstring" is never "drawn in;" the poorest and feeblest may pull it and open the door. We are loath to change this attitude. Apart from a natural reluctance to bar the gate, we remember that if we suffer from the overflow of other nationalities we ourselves have sent to other lands many streams of population. Had not America during the last fifty years received millions of Irishmen, the condition of that island would have been deplorable. There were in 1841 over eight millions of that people existing on the brink of destitution, badly housed, badly clad, living on potatoes, and sometimes half starved, a ragged, servile horde of landless peasants. The emigration to America has given to five millions of Irishmen in the States prosperity and comfort, and the four millions and a half in Ireland have about ten times the wealth of the eight millions of semi-paupers in 1841. Had not America been ready to receive that surplus we should have on our hands an Ireland so poor as to become a perpetual burden and a disgrace. It, therefore, hardly becomes the United Kingdom to object altogether to alien immigrants. Too many of her own children have found fortune abroad.

## Arsenic and Ammonia.

The slow absorption of many poisons changes in some more or less modified form the complexion, but arsenic and ammonia show their effect about as quickly as any. The popular belief that arsenic clears the complexion has led many silly women to kill themselves with it in small, continued doses. It produces a waxy, ivory-like appearance of the skin during a certain stage of the poisoning, but its terrible after effects have become too well known to make it of common use as a cosmetic.

The effects of ammonia upon the complexion are directly opposite to that of arsenic. The first symptom of ammonia poisoning which appears among those who work in ammonia factories is a discoloration of the skin of the nose and forehead. This gradually extends over the face until the

complexion has a stained, blotched and unsightly appearance. With people who take ammonia into their systems in smaller doses, as with their water or food, these striking symptoms do not appear so soon. The only effect of the poison that is visible for a time is a general unwholesomeness and sallowness of the complexion.

Many people are slowly absorbing ammonia poison without knowing it. The use of ammonia in the manufacture has greatly increased of late, and it is unquestionably used as an adulterant in certain food preparations. Official analyses have plainly shown its use even in such cheap articles of everyday consumption as baking powders. The continued absorption of ammonia in even minute quantities as an adulterant in food is injurious, not merely from its effects upon the complexion, but because it destroys the coating of the stomach and causes dyspepsia and kindred evils.

Professor Long, of Chicago, is authority for the statement that if fifty million parts of water there is one part of ammonia the water is dangerous.

## The Red Man's Bronco.

The toughness and strength of the pony can scarcely be exaggerated. He will live through a winter that will kill the hardest cattle. He worries through the long months when the snow has covered up the bunch grass on a diet of cottonwood boughs, and the Indian cuts down for him; and in the spring it takes but a few weeks for him to scour out into splendid condition. He can go unheard of distances.

Colonel R. I. Dodge records an instance coming under his observation where a pony carried the mails 300 miles in three consecutive nights, and back over the same road the next week, and kept this up for six months without loss of condition. He can carry any weight. Mr. Parkman speaks of a chief known as Le Cochon, on account of his 300 pounds avoirdupois, who nevertheless rode his ponies as bravely as a man of half his bulk. The pony has often carried two people as one. There is simply no end to this wonderful product of the prairies. He works many years. So long as he will fatten up in the spring his age is immaterial.

The absence of crest in the pony suggests the curious query of what has become of the proud arching neck of his ancestors, the barb. There are two ways of accounting for this. The Indian's gag bit, invariably applied instead of bringing it down, as the slow and light application of the school curb will do, and this tends to develop the ewe neck. Or a more sufficient reason may be found in the fact that the starvation which the pony undergoes in the winter months tends to deplete him of every superfluous ounce of flesh.—Baltimore American.

## Gambling in England.

In aristocratic society in England gambling has always been one of the agencies to while away time and get rid of the guineas. Very nearly all the ladies bet on the races, and incline to any gambling that is going. Many of them meet regularly for baccarat, roulette, or any other banking game, and lose and win appreciably. Englishmen who gamble for high stakes, however, always do it away from home, at their clubs, or in private quarters. As an instance of how your lordly Britisher backs his judgment, one Londoner, a few weeks ago, in an afternoon lost \$35,000 to a friend, but retrieved this and won \$75,000 more from his opponent before dinner. The only club now given to high play is the very aristocratic organization known as the Cecce Tree Club, in St. James street, St. James Square. This is not far from the quarters of the Field Club, which was raided and broken into by the police last year. This latter was not a club, but a private hell run by a man named Seaton, for the express purpose of plucking young and plunging members of the aristocracy. The game was baccarat, and individual losses often ranged from \$50,000 to \$100,000 in a single night. The group of players who were captured and arraigned in court embraced a dozen names prominent in the peerage, but they were dismissed with light fines. After a night in jail, Seaton, the proprietor, escaped with a fine of \$2,500, which, as he had made a fortune out of the place, he was entirely willing to pay.

## English as She Is Spoke.



How she would appear if she literally burst into tears.

She Was Teaching Him.

A lady, on entering the kitchen early one morning, saw a plate and knife and fork, the former of which had evidently contained cold rabbit pie. The lady strongly suspected a certain policeman of having supped off it, and the following conversation took place between her and the cook:

Mistress—Mary, what's become of the cold rabbit pie that was left?

Cook—Oh, I didn't think it was wanted, mam, so I gave it to the dog.

Mistress (sarcastically)—Does the dog use a knife and fork, then?

Cook (unabashed)—Not very well yet, mam, but I'm teachin' him to.—London Tit-Bits.

We do not see how the blacks and the whites can be placed on exactly the same footing, unless about six inches is sawed off the feet of the former.

## Confirmed.

The favorable impression produced on the first appearance of the agreeable liquid fruit remedy, Syrup of Figs, a few years ago, has been more than confirmed by the pleasant experience of all who have used it, and the success of the proprietors and manufacturers, the California Fig Syrup Company.

A curious anesthetic used by the Chinese has recently been made known by Dr. U. Lambuth in his third annual report of the Soochow Hospital. It is obtained by placing a frog in a jar of flour and irritating it by prodding it. Under these circumstances it exudes a liquid which forms a paste with the flour. This paste dissolved in water has well-marked anesthetic properties. After the finger has been immersed in the liquid for a few minutes it can be cut to the bone without any pain being felt.

## Can't You Catch On?

To a known means of overcoming that obstinate disorder, constipation? Of course you can. Then why don't you? Ask those who have tried it, and they will tell that Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is a matchless laxative, effective without violence—thoroughly alterative, but perfectly reliable. It invigorates, too, no less than it regulates the system, and it is chiefly to this first quality that it owes the permanency of its regulating effects, since, if vigor is lacking in the region of the bowels, the stomach on the liver, healthful activity in those organs is suspended. Deobstruents and cathartics in general are simply that and nothing more; they relax the bowels merely without invigorating them, and as their laxative action is usually abrupt and violent, they really tend to weaken the organs. Use the Bitters, also, for malaria, rheumatism, indigestion, debility and kidney trouble.

Floating dramatic item: There is an average of 2,694 ties to a mile of railroad in this country.

Young mothers who regain strength but slowly, should bear in mind that nature's great assistant is Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It has no rival, as thousands testify.

The girls say that to kiss a man without a mustache is like eating an egg without any salt.

J. A. JOHNSON, Medina, N. Y., says: "Hall's Catarrh Cure cured me." Sold by Druggists, etc.

WEARINESS can snore upon flint when resty sloth finds the down pillow hard.

For a 2c. stamp, sent with address to Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Mass., ladies will receive free, a beautiful illustrated book, "Guide to Health and Etiquette."

SARAH BERNHARDT played to \$40,000 in Boston.

TWO OF A KIND.—A mule will follow a load of hay all day, but he hates to be driven to pasture. There is a good deal of mule in some people, and they are usually troubled with a stubborn liver and indigestion, and need a reliable remedy, such as Dr. White's Dandelion Alternative. It cures indigestion, biliousness, and liver and kidney troubles, purifies the blood, and brings back the vigor of youth.

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Describes a feeling peculiar to persons of dyspeptic tendency, or caused by change of climate, season or life. The stomach is out of order, the head aches or does not feel right.

## The Nerves

seem strained to their utmost, the mind is confused and irritable. This condition finds an excellent corrective in Hood's Sarsaparilla, which, by its regulating and toning powers, soon restores harmony to the system, and gives strength of mind, nerves, and body.

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